

Lab 5 : Kirchhoff's Rules-PHY 152

Objective: Application of Kirchhoff's Rules

Equipment: Power supply, resistors, Voltmeter/ current meter

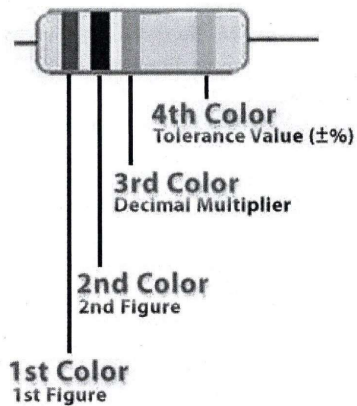
Kirchhoff's Laws:

Junction rule: At a junction where a current path divides into two or more branches, Sum of incoming currents = Sum of outgoing currents.

Loop rule: Over any closed loop, Sum of voltage drops over all circuit elements=0

Resistor Color Code:

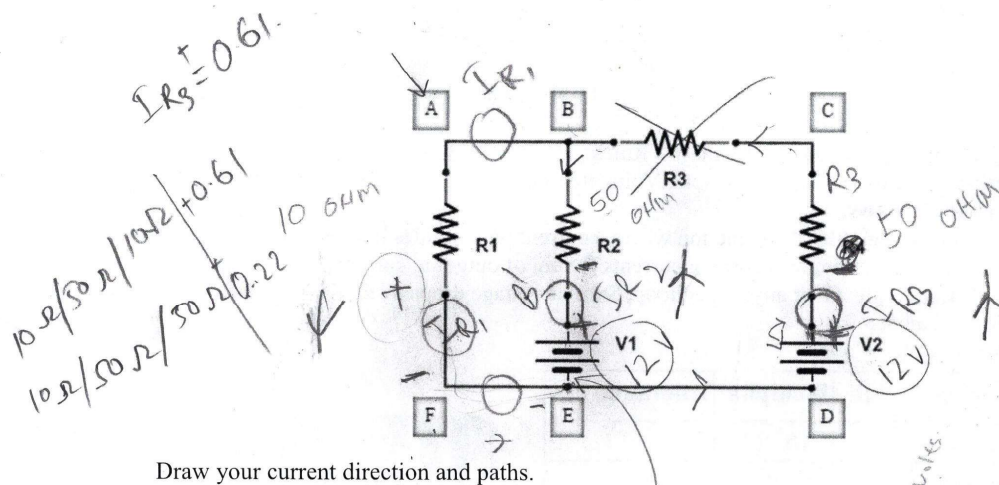
Color	Digit	Multiplier	Tolerance (%)
Black	0	10^0 (1)	
Brown	1	10^1	1
Red	2	10^2	2
Orange	3	10^3	
Yellow	4	10^4	
Green	5	10^5	0.5
Blue	6	10^6	0.25
Violet	7	10^7	0.1
Grey	8	10^8	
White	9	10^9	
Gold		10^{-1}	5
Silver		10^{-2}	10
(none)			20



Above shown resistor's colors are Brown, Black, Orange and Golden so its value is $10 \times 1000 = 10000\Omega$ or $10K\Omega$ with a tolerance of $\pm 5\%$

Procedure:

1. Analyze the following electrical circuit by applying Kirchhoff's rules to calculate the currents (magnitude and direction) through each resistor of known resistance. You may use two different voltages.



Draw your current direction and paths.

Analysis:

Write the Junction Rule:

$$I_1 = I_2 + I_3$$

$$I_1 = I_2 + I_3$$

Write the Loop Rules (should be 3):

Handwritten calculations:

$$0.22 = I_{R1}$$

$$I_{R2} = 0.22$$

$$I_{R3} = 0.22$$

$$\sum V_L = 0$$

$$\sum \Delta V_L = I_R = I_{R2} + I_{R3}$$

Choose 4 resistors to be in your system. Estimate from your loop and junction rules what the current is through each R1, R2, R3, R4.

Resistor	Resistance (Ω)	Current through Resistor (A)
R1	50 Ω	$12V \div 50 = .24A$
R2	50 Ω	$12V \div 50 = .24A$
R3	50 Ω	$12V \div 50 = .24A$
R4		

Verify by measuring the currents and measure the voltage drop over the resistors. Compare the estimated current with the measured values (use absolute values when comparing).

@

	V_1 SWITCHED	V_1/V_2 SWITCHED
I_{R1}	-0.31	-0.229
I_{R2}	-0.3	-0.22
I_P	+0.3	-0.21

Measurement:

Potential difference (V)	Current through Resistor (A)	Direction of current (+/-)	% error between measured and theoretical (above) values of Current
$V_A - V_F = 4.67$	$I_{R1} = 0.231 \text{ A}$	+	3.9%
$V_B - V_E = -11.62$	$I_{R2} = 0.22 \text{ A}$	+	9.09%
$V_B - V_C =$	$I_{R3} = 0.22 \text{ A}$	+	9.09%
$V_C - V_D = -11.49$	$I_{R4} =$		

Change the polarity of one of the batteries and reanalyze the circuit. Measure the currents through the resistors and verify by measuring them.

Analysis:

Write the Junction Rule:

$$I_2 + I_3 = I_1$$

$$I_E \rightarrow I_D = I_1 = \frac{V}{R_1} = \frac{24V}{50} = 0.48 \text{ A}$$

$$I_2 = 12V / 50 = 0.24 \text{ A}$$

$$I_3 = 12V / 50 = 0.24 \text{ A}$$

$$I_3 = 12V + 12V = 24V$$

$$I_3 = 24V / 50 = 0.48 \text{ A}$$

Loop Rules

Loop ①

E B A F

$$50I_2 = 10I_1 + 50I_3$$

Loop ②

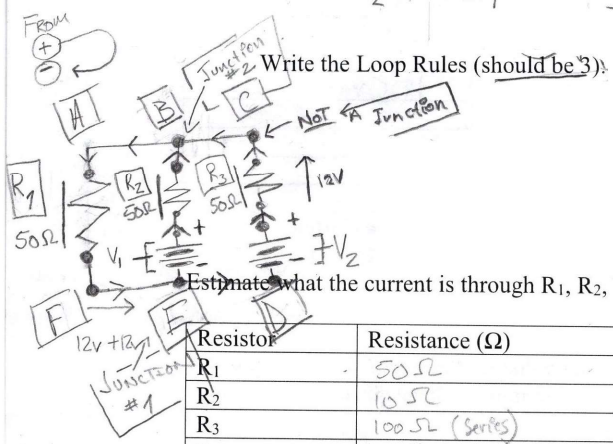
A B E F A

$$12 - 10I_1 - 50I_2 = 0$$

Loop ③

D C B E

$$12 - 50I_3 - 10I_1 = 0$$

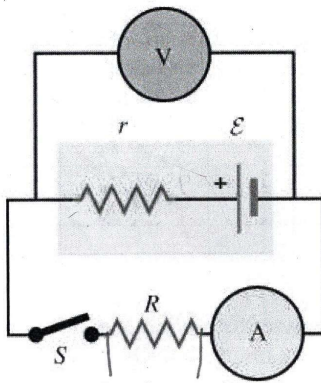


Resistor	Resistance (Ω)	Current through Resistor (A)
R_1	50 Ω	$6V / 50 = 0.12 \text{ A}$
R_2	10 Ω	$6V / 10 = 0.6 \text{ A}$
R_3	100 Ω (Series)	$6V / 100 = 0.06 \text{ A}$
R_4	100 Ω (Parallel)	$6V / 100 = 0.06 \text{ A}$

How did changing the polarity of one of the batteries affect the circuit?

same number, but resulted in a change in sign. $(+ \rightarrow -)$

Internal Resistance of a battery



Recall terminal voltage of a battery $V = \mathcal{E} - Ir$.
The terminal voltage of a battery is smaller than the electromotive force of the battery because of the internal resistance inside the battery.

The Kirchhoff equations for this circuit is
 $0 = \mathcal{E} - Ir - IR$

Connect a Voltmeter across the terminals of the battery and read the voltage. (do not setup circuit yet for this step, it is battery only.)

$V = 1.2$ ✓

Connect battery to an external resistor R , a switch, and a Voltmeter as shown. Measure the Voltage across the terminal of the battery and the current in the table below for 5 different resistors. 2 TRIALS for each resistor

Resistance (Ω)	Current (A) * TRIAL 1	Voltage (V) ** TRIAL 2
10Ω (1% Tolerance)	① .00121 A, .0121 V	② .00117 A, .0117 V
100Ω (SERIES)	① .00122 A, .0057 V	② .000124 A, .006 V
50Ω	① .00115 A, .0028 V	② .000112 A, .0027 V
100Ω (Parallel)	① .000116 A, .0116 V	② .00011 A, .011 V

R_1
 R_2
 R_3
 R_4

What do you notice about the relationship between the Voltage and the Current?

For R_2
 $V = IR$

$R = \frac{V}{I} = \frac{.0028}{.000115} = 24.35 \Omega$

Voltage and current are inversely proportional.

Plot Current vs Voltage (dependent). What is your value for the slope? 4.881

What does the slope value represent? (look at your terminal voltage equation)

The voltage increases by 4.881 units for each unit (ampere) increase in the current.

What is your y-intercept? 0.0062

What does the y-intercept value represent?

$\mathcal{E} - Ir = V$
 $y = mx + b = y$

Additional resistance (internal resistance of the battery)
① Internal resistance value $r = .0062$ EMF
 $I \cdot r = \mathcal{E}$
 $r = 2.42 \times 10^{-6}$ (Avg.)

Now plot the inverse of the Current ($1/I$) vs the Resistance (R) (dependent variable) used.

What is your value for slope? -0.0982

To what does the slope value correspond? (look at your Kirchhoff's Rules equation)

The inverse of the current decreases for every 1 unit (Ω) increase in the resistance.

What is your y-intercept? 81.406

To what does the y-intercept value correspond?

$$r = 81.406$$
$$I \cdot r = 53648.53 \text{ (Avg)}$$

The y-intercept matches the increase of internal resistance with each increase in $\frac{1}{\text{current}}$ (or, equivalently, with every 1-unit decrease in the current).

Compare your internal resistance values from each plotting method. Are they close? Why or why not?

$\mathcal{E} = I r_{\text{internal}}$ of 1000 from the Voltage vs Current plot. And that makes SENSE, since the current itself differs from its inverse by a factor of 1 million. Internal resistance reflects current, and vice-versa.

Compare your electromotive force (\mathcal{E}) values from each plotting method. Are they close? Why or why not?

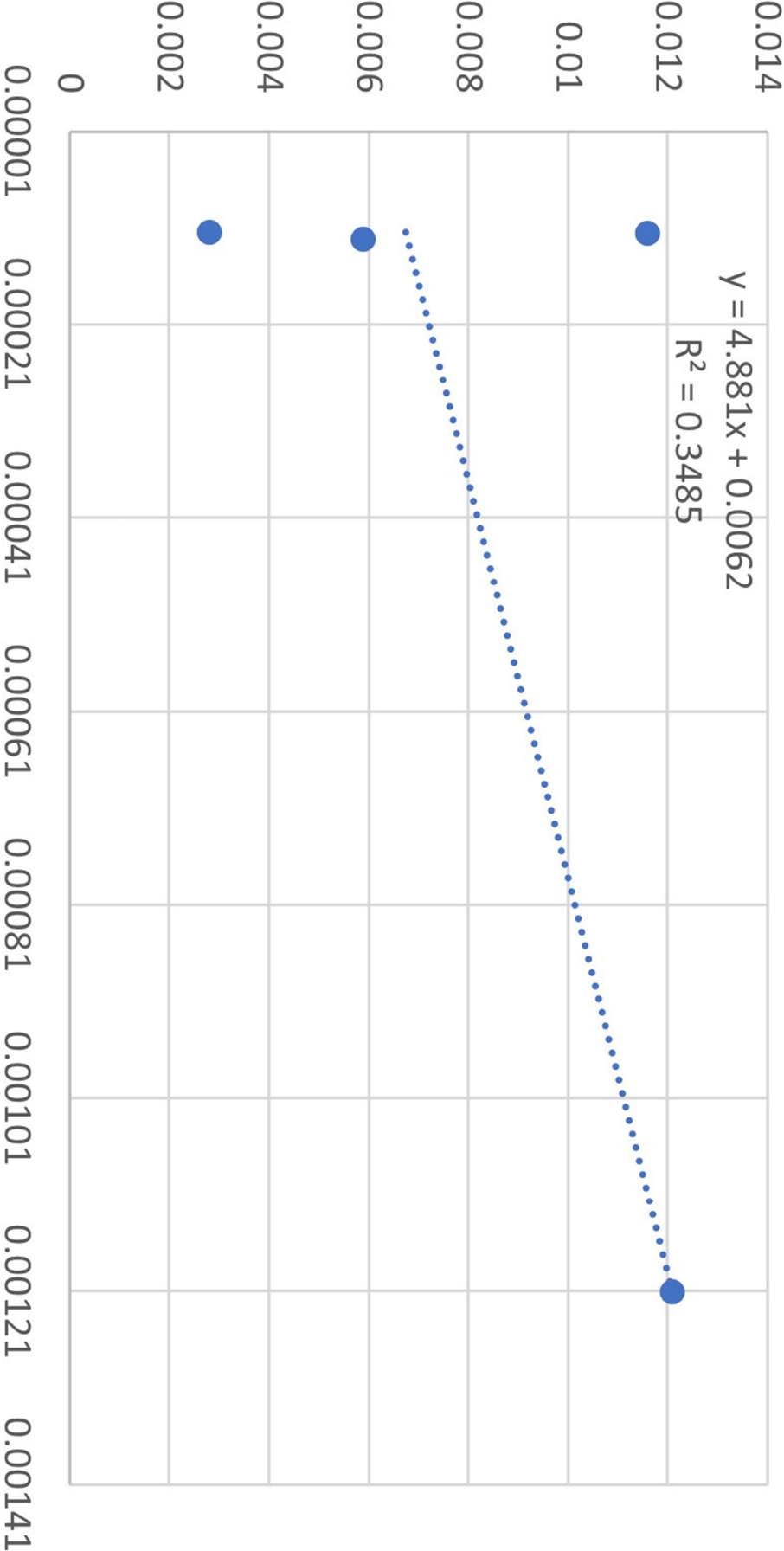
No, they are polar opposites — given the smallness of the Amperage, it's obvious the EMF will be much larger in the Plot of Resistance Against Current (I) as an inverse.

I've provided the EMF for both plots as an average. As current (or current) and internal resistance increase so will the electro-motive force. Summarize what all you learnt through using Kirchoff's laws and the internal resistance of a battery. (3-5 sentences)

Kirchoff's laws are typically used to measure multi-branch circuits. Applying them to simpler set-ups is sometimes problematic, but this lab exercise reveals a lot about how current travels between nodes. Deriving the different Loop Rules, for instance, forces an understanding of where the current is in a circuit, where it's going, and how it's altered between nodes and across resistors.

I also gained an appreciation for the practice of plotting with Voltage, rather than current, as the dependent variable — a practice that seems very unnatural. However, I learned, in answering the post-lab questions that swapping the axes this way isolates the Internal Resistance of the battery as the y-intercept, which makes calculation of EMF only a matter of multiplying a current on that circuit with the v-intercept.

CURRENT AGAINST VOLTAGE



1/Current Against Resistance

